

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SAM-01

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R 271228Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 869

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0425

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, BU

SUBJECT: CUNHAL VISIT TO BULGARIA

1. FEBRUARY 20-22 VISIT BY PCP CHIEF CUNHAL APPARENTLY
PRODUCED LITTLE IF ANYTHING BEYOND CUSTOMARY EXPRESSIONS
OF MUTUAL ADMIRATION AND SUPPORT. EVEN THESE SEEMED
A LITTLE SUBDUED. MAJOR MEDIA EVENT OF VISIT WAS
PRESENTATION TO CUNHAL OF ORDER OF GEORGI DIMITROV
BY ZHIVKOV. COMMUNIQUE CONTAINED NOTHIFA OF
SUBSTANCE AND CUNHAL DEPARTURE WAS BURIED ON INSIDE
PAGES, OBSCURED BY PUBLICATION OF "MAIN DIRECTIVES"
TO BE PRESENTED AT BCP 11TH CONGRESS.

2. PORTUGUESE AMB DA VEIGA TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT
HE HAD BEEN CAREFUL TO ABSENT HIMSELF FROM FUNCTIONS
SURROUNDING CUNHAL VISIT. HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT
CUNHAL HAD BEEN RECEIVED "AS IF HE WERE A HEAD OF
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STATE", AN EVALUATION EMBASSY CANNOT SHARE: MEETINGS

AND RECEPTIONS SEEMED TO US ON PAR WITH TREATMENT ACCORDED OTHER VISITING CP LEADERS. ACCORDING TO AN INFORMANT OF PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR, CUNHAL LOOKED VERY TIRED AND IN POOR PHYSICAL SHAPE.

3. PORTUGUESE FONMIN ANTUNES IS COMING TO BULGARIA MARCH 11 FOR TWO-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT PLUS ONE DAY SIGHTSEEING. PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR THOUGHT BULGARIANS MAY HAVE TONED DOWN CUNHAL COMMUNIQUE IN ORDER NOT TO QUEER ANTUNES VISIT WHICH THEY HAD SOUGHT AND EVEN URGED.
HERZ

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